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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/786,929	03/12/2001	Yukiko Takeda	H-969	7978

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EXAMINER

PHILLIPS, HASSAN A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2151

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/786,929

Applicant(s)

TAKEDA ET AL.

Examiner

Hassan Phillips

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/12/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), filed May 12, 2001, has been received and considered by the Examiner.

Preliminary Amendments

1. The preliminary amendments filed May 12, 2001, have been received and considered by the Examiner.

Specification

1. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 6, recite the limitation "the identifier" in the first line following the claims preamble. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in

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the claims. In order for the Examiner to advance prosecution of the application for patent the Examiner has interpreted "the identifier" to be "an identifier".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) The invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 2, 5-7, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Sitaraman et al. (hereinafter Sitaraman), U.S. Patent 6,427,170.

3. In considering claims 1, 2, 5, and 6, Sitaraman teaches a packet communication control apparatus for data communication with a mobile terminal, the apparatus being connected via a network to a server for holding information on correspondence between IP addresses allocated to communication apparatuses and the names of the communication apparatuses; a plurality of gateway apparatuses; and a service control apparatus for holding location information and service information for each mobile terminal, comprising:

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- a) Means for reading an identifier of one of a plurality of the gateway apparatuses from the service control apparatuses, the gateway apparatus being a home gateway apparatus set permanently for the mobile terminal, (col. 8, lines 66-67, col. 9, lines 1-22);
- b) Means for receiving, when an IP address is allocated to the mobile terminal, the IP address from the mobile terminal, and means for sending the allocated IP address and the identifier of the home gateway apparatus to the server, (col. 9, lines 23-40).

4. In considering claim 7, Sitaraman teaches the IP address allocated by the home gateway apparatus. See col. 8, lines 5-8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 3, 4, 8-14, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sitaraman in view of the Applicants Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

3. In considering claims 3 and 8, although Sitaraman discloses significant features of the claimed invention, he fails to expressly disclose starting a data communication with another communication apparatus.

Nevertheless the Applicant admits in the specification that this feature was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. See page 12, lines 7-14.

Thus, given the teachings of the AAPA, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sitaraman to show a signal for sending a query to another communication apparatus about the address information, the address information being sent to the server by the mobile terminal so as to start data communication with the other apparatus, and a memory for storing the address information of the other communication apparatus and the identifier of the home gateway apparatus set permanently for the other communication apparatus, the address information being included in a reply signal returned from the server to the signal. This would have shown an effective means of communications between two communication apparatuses in a communications network that provides for the management of IP addresses utilizing dynamic IP address assignment, Sitaraman, col. 4, lines 56-60.

4. In considering claims 4 and 9, although Sitaraman discloses significant features of the claimed invention, he fails to expressly disclose sending the packet to the home gateway of the mobile terminal after the home gateway identifier is added thereto.

Nevertheless the Applicant admits in the specification that this feature was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. See page 12, lines 20-25.

Thus, given the teachings of the AAPA, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sitaraman to show a means for reading the identifier of the home gateway apparatus of the other communication apparatus from the memory when receiving a packet addressed to the other communication apparatus from the mobile terminal, and a means for sending the packet to the home gateway apparatus of the mobile terminal after the read home gateway apparatus identifier is added thereto. This would have further shown an effective means for communications between two communication apparatuses in a communications network that provides for the management of IP addresses utilizing dynamic IP address assignment, Sitaraman, col. 4, lines 56-60.

5. In considering claim 10, Sitaraman teaches a packet communication control apparatus connected via a network to a plurality of gateway apparatuses and a subscriber node, comprising:

- a) A table on correspondence between identifiers and addresses of a plurality of the gateway apparatuses, (col. 9, lines 57-67, col. 10, lines 1-5).

Although Sitaraman discloses significant features of the claimed invention, he fails to expressly disclose transferring the packet to a destination gateway apparatus.

Nevertheless the Applicant admits in the specification that this feature was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. See page 12, lines 17-25.

Thus, given the teachings of the AAPA, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sitaraman to show a means for deciding, when receiving a packet to which a header including the identifier of a destination gateway apparatus from the subscriber node, the address of the destination gateway apparatus with use of the table on correspondence, and means for transferring the packet to the destination gateway apparatus. This would have shown an effective means for communications between two communication apparatuses in a communications network that provides for the management of IP addresses utilizing dynamic IP address assignment, Sitaraman, col. 4, lines 56-60.

6. In considering claim 11, the AAPA further shows a means or adding a header including self-address information and the address information of a destination apparatus to be transferred to the destination apparatus being well known in the art at the time of the present invention. See page 12, line 25, and page 13, lines 1-3.

Thus, given the teachings of the AAPA, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sitaraman to show the gateway apparatus comprising a means for adding a header including self-address information and the address information of the destination gateway apparatus to a packet to be transferred to the destination gateway apparatus. This would have further shown an effective means for communications between two communication apparatuses in a

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communications network that provides for the management of IP addresses utilizing dynamic IP address assignment, Sitaraman, col. 4, lines 56-60.

7. In considering claim 12, although Sitaraman discloses significant features of the claimed invention, he fails to expressly disclose starting a data communication with another communication apparatus.

Nevertheless the Applicant admits in the specification that this feature was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. See page 12, lines 7-14.

Thus, given the teachings of the AAPA, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sitaraman to show a signal for sending a query to another communication apparatus about the address information, the address information being sent to the server by the mobile terminal so as to start data communication with the other apparatus, and a memory for storing the address information of the other communication apparatus and the identifier of the home gateway apparatus set permanently for the other communication apparatus, the address information being included in a reply signal returned from the server to the signal. This would have shown an effective means of communications between two communication apparatuses in a communications network that provides for the management of IP addresses utilizing dynamic IP address assignment, Sitaraman, col. 4, lines 56-60.

8. In considering claim 13, although Sitaraman discloses significant features of the claimed invention, he fails to expressly disclose transferring the packet to a destination gateway apparatus.

Nevertheless the Applicant admits in the specification that this feature was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. See page 12, lines 17-25.

Thus, given the teachings of the AAPA, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sitaraman to show a means for deciding, when receiving a packet to which a header including the identifier of a destination gateway apparatus from the subscriber node, the address of the destination gateway apparatus with use of the table on correspondence, and means for transferring the packet to the destination gateway apparatus. This would have shown an effective means for communications between two communication apparatuses in a communications network that provides for the management of IP addresses utilizing dynamic IP address assignment, Sitaraman, col. 4, lines 56-60.

9. In considering claim 14, Sitaraman teaches a packet communication control apparatus connected via a network to a plurality of gateway apparatuses and a subscriber node, comprising:

- a) A table on correspondence between identifiers and addresses of a plurality of the gateway apparatuses, (col. 9, lines 57-67, col. 10, lines 1-5).

Although Sitaraman discloses significant features of the claimed invention, he fails to expressly disclose starting a data communication with another communication apparatus.

Nevertheless the Applicant admits in the specification that this feature was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. See page 12, lines 7-25, and page 13, lines 1-3.

Thus, given the teachings of the AAPA, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sitaraman to show a means for sending a control signal including address information of the other communication apparatus to the server so as to obtain the identifier of the home gateway apparatus set which is permanently for the other communication apparatus and is selected from among a plurality of the gateway apparatuses when receiving a packet addressed to the other communication apparatus from the mobile terminal, and a means for identifying the address information of the home gateway apparatus of the other communication apparatus from said identifier of said home gateway apparatus of the other communication apparatus included in a reply signal returned to the control signal by referring to the table on correspondence and transferring the packet to the home gateway apparatus of the other communication apparatus. This would have shown an effective means of communications between two communication apparatuses in a communications network that provides for the management of IP addresses utilizing dynamic IP address assignment, Sitaraman, col. 4, lines 56-60.

Conclusion


1. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Sitaraman et al., U.S. Patent 6,427,170, discloses a method and apparatus for integrated IP address management.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hassan Phillips whose telephone number is (703) 305-8760. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (703) 305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**FRANTZ B. JEAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**